ECLIPSE COMICS
Anniversary
№ 8
$2.00 / CANADA $2.95
California GIRLS
MAX'S BACK!
SO'S MO!
FIND OUT INSIDE WHY THEY'VE BEEN GONE SO LONG!
INSIDE!
SEE MORE OF THIS DRESS, DESIGNED BY MARIO HERNANDEZ OXNARD, CA

The PENUMBRA

WRITE TO: ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

A indicates an Airboy title.
TE indicates a book whose characters appear in Total Eclipse.

AIRBOY no. 39 *A TE*
Airboy and Valkyrie with the Confederate Airforce! Then, a special 3-part Heap back-up begins!

KAMUI nos. 24 & 25
Utsuse closes in on the renegade ninja, Kamui!

SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN no. 2
Introducing Scout's arch-enemy—Redwire! Full-length action by Truman!

XENON nos. 11 & 12
Kidnapped by the Demon Three, will Sonoko be the bait to lure Xenon to his destruction?

AREA 88 nos. 24 & 25
When Shin's wingman is also his assassin, his chance of survival is slim to none!

FUSION no. 9
A faulty translation device gets the Tsunami crew in trouble . . . again. Plus, The Weasel Patrol is back!

MAI THE PSYCHIC GIRL nos. 24 & 25
The evil young American, David, launches an attack on Kaieda, and Intetsu returns!

MIRACLEMAN FAMILY no. 1 (of 2)
New Series! TE
See Miracleman, Kid Miracleman and Young Miracleman in the stories that shaped the series of today!

ALEX TOTH'S ZORRO: Volume One
Collecting Alex Toth's classic adventures of Walt Disney's Zorro, with new Toth covers, new tone art added by Toth, and an introduction by Howard Chaykin!

POWER COMICS no. 2 (of 4)
Representing Dave Gibbons and Brian Bolland's ground-breaking work, in two separate stories pitting Power Bolt against Dr. Crime, under a new Bolland cover!

AIRFIGHTERS CLASSICS no. 4 *A TE*
Airboy and all the Airfighters soar into action against Nazis, dragons and samurai in this Golden Age facsimile reprint.

TOTAL ECLIPSE no. 1 (of 8)
New Super Series!
Marv Wolfman, Bo Hampton, Willie Blyberg and Bill Sienkiewicz bring you all your favorite Eclipse characters from the last 10 years in one Super Series. Airboy, Miracleman and Aztec Ace are only three of over 30 characters who will appear. Tim Truman and Brent Anderson supply this issue's special Prowler interlude. Don't miss this once in a decade series!

GRAPHIC JOURNALISM: I don't often take this space to plug upcoming projects, but I am making an exception. We have begun work on an album so unusual and so important that I simply cannot wait for the normal fanzine channels to spread the word to you.

This 72-page full-colour graphic album is scheduled for release November 1st. It is edited by Joyce Brabner, who was also responsible for editing the acclaimed non-fiction comic, *Real War Stories*. The work is a collaborative effort by Alan Moore, Bill Sienkiewicz, Joyce Brabner, Thomas Yeates, and Paul Mavrides It presents the authorized story of the Christic Institute's current lawsuit against Richard Secord, John Singlaub, Theodore Shackley, Albert Hakim, Rob Owen, Felix Rodriguez, Thomas Clines, John Hull, Rafael "Chi Chi" Quintero, and other major players in what has come to be known as the "Iran-Contra scandal."

Federal indictments have already been brought against Oliver North and three other men, charges which include, among other things, defrauding the U.S. government. More indictments are expected as of this writing, but the Christic suit predates these indictments, names more defendants, and makes broader and more serious charges against them. It is a bombshell waiting to explode over the complacent American public.

The Christic Institute is a non-profit legal organization which investigates and prosecutes civil rights cases. The famous Karen Silkwood case was won by their attorney, Daniel Sheehan. This time Sheehan is representing Tony Avirgan and Martha Honey. Martha is a journalist, and her husband Tony is a television cameraman who was injured in a bombing at a press conference held at Contra leader Eden Pastora's headquarters in 1984. The Christic suit alleges that this bombing, in which several journalists were killed, was engineered by men associated with the U.S. government through the C.I.A., the N.S.C., and the Contra supply network.

Investigations into the bombing unexpectedly led Christic researchers back along a trail marked by thirty years of illegal acts which were linked by the participation of the same group of players. These men were involved in the Bay of Pigs invasion, the covert war in Laos, the Watergate break-in, pay-offs to Panamanian dictator and drug dealer Manuel Antonio Noriega, illegal sales of arms to Iran, the attempted assasination of the U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica, and even the destabilization of the Australian government!

This "Secret Team" of military, and guerrilla agents has lied to Congress, made a mockery of our drug and arms control laws, and subverted the Constitution as part of a profit-making venture which is now being brought to light by investigators around the world.

And that's the name of the graphic album: *BROUGHT TO LIGHT*. It is actually two stories in one, and it will be printed as a "topsy turvy" book with two front covers. "Shadowplay: The Secret Team," by Moore and Sienkiewicz, traces the deeds these men have done under cover of our government's sponsorship, while "Flashpoint: The La Penca Bombing," by Brabner and Yeates, reveals how Martha, Tony, and the Christic Institute are fighting to uncover the truth and bring the perpetrators of these crimes to justice. Paul Mavrides supplies a centerfold feature mapping covert actions and dirty dealings over the past thirty years. This is an ongoing investigation, and the end of the story has not yet been written.

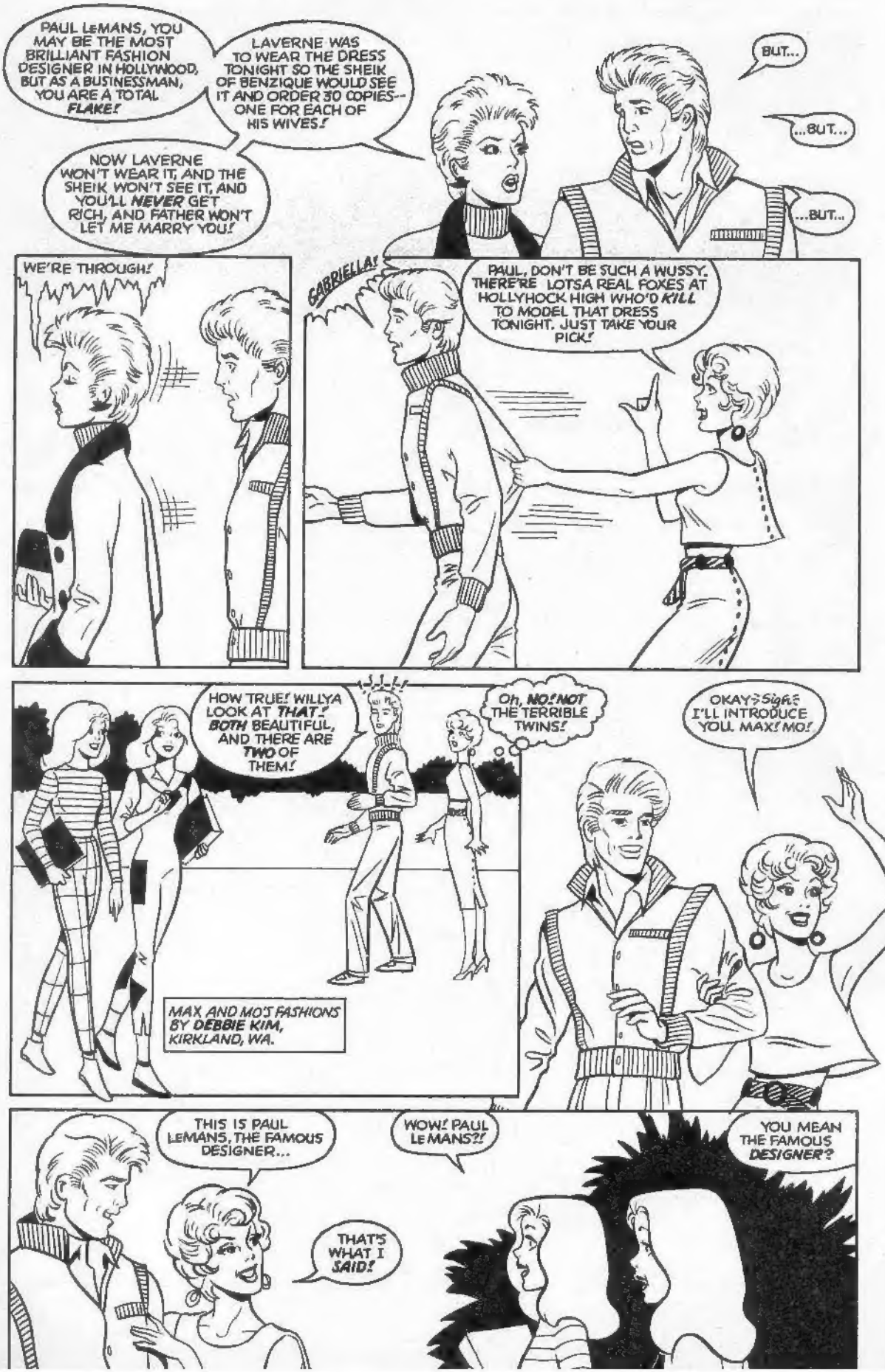
If you think comics are at their best when they show super-heroes hitting super-villains in the face, this album will change your mind, permanently. If you believe comics are as legitimate a medium as television, literature, or film, this is the book you have been waiting for. It represents a real breakthrough in the general public's perception of comics because rather than our going out in search of subject-matter to print, the Christic Institute, on the strength of what they saw in *Real War Stories*, chose comics as the medium in which they wanted their story told. I cannot stress enough the importance of *BROUGHT TO LIGHT*, both as journalism and as an example of creative work by some of the best people in comics.

Remember, as we head into summer and news of the Christic Institute's lawsuit hits the front pages over and over again, you'll be able to read it all in comics form soon. I promise you, this is one publishing event you will not want to miss.

catherine yronwode

CALIFORNIA GIRLS™ no. 8, May 1988. Published monthly by Eclipse Comics, P.O. Box 1099, Forestville, CA 95436. Catherine Yronwode, Editor-in-Chief. Dean Mullaney, Publisher. California Girls TM and ©1988 Trina Robbins. All other material ©1988 Eclipse Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. The stories, characters and events in this magazine are fictional. Film by SM Graphics. For licensing information contact Dean Mullaney.

THE SOUND OF BREAKING GLASS
FROM A PLOT BY MARIO HERNANDEZ & REBECKA WRIGHT
HOLLYHOCK HIGH SCHOOL
BUT LAVERNE, YOU PROMISED YOU'D WEAR MY LATEST DESIGN TO THE RECITAL TONIGHT. A VERY IMPORTANT CLIENT WILL BE THERE!
TEDDIBLY SORRY, PAUL DAHLING, BUT DADDY AND I ARE FLYING DOWN TO MONTY CARLO AFTER SCHOOL TODAY TO ATTEND THE BACCARAT TOURNAMENT!
ANYWAY, I THINK RECITALS ARE DULL!
FASHIONS BY JOE FITZPATRICK, LINCOLNWOOD, IL.
FASHION BY JANE OLIVER, SANTA ROSA, CA.
LAVERNE'S DRESS BY DANIELLE HIDALGO, BURLINGAME, CA.
STORY & INKS by TRINA ROBBINS
PENCILS by BARB RAUSCH
LETTERS by L. LOIS BUHALIS


PAUL LeMANS, YOU MAY BE THE MOST BRILLIANT FASHION DESIGNER IN HOLLYWOOD, BUT AS A BUSINESSMAN, YOU ARE A TOTAL FLAKE!
LAVERNE WAS TO WEAR THE DRESS TONIGHT SO THE SHEIK OF BENZIQUE WOULD SEE IT AND ORDER 30 COPIES--ONE FOR EACH OF HIS WIVES!
NOW LAVERNE WON'T WEAR IT, AND THE SHEIK WON'T SEE IT, AND YOU'LL NEVER GET RICH, AND FATHER WON'T LET ME MARRY YOU!
BUT...
...BUT...
...BUT...
WE'RE THROUGH!
GABRIELLA!
PAUL, DON'T BE SUCH A WUSSY. THERE'RE LOTSA REAL FOXES AT HOLLYHOCK HIGH WHO'D KILL TO MODEL THAT DRESS TONIGHT. JUST TAKE YOUR PICK!
HOW TRUE! WILLYA LOOK AT THAT! BOTH BEAUTIFUL, AND THERE ARE TWO OF THEM!
Oh, NO! NOT THE TERRIBLE TWINS!
OKAY? Sigh. I'LL INTRODUCE YOU. MAX! MO!
MAX AND MO'S FASHIONS BY DEBBIE KIM, KIRKLAND, WA.
THIS IS PAUL LEMANS, THE FAMOUS DESIGNER...
THAT'S WHAT I SAID!
WOW! PAUL LE MANS?!
YOU MEAN THE FAMOUS DESIGNER?

...AND THE DRESS IS ALL COVERED WITH GLASS BEADS FILLED WITH COLORED WATER. IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT I HAVE A BEAUTIFUL GIRL MODELING AT THE RECITAL TONIGHT.
I WAS GONNA SEE LULU AND THE CRAZY BABYZ PLAY AT THE KOO KOO KLUB TONIGHT, BUT HOW CAN I RESIST?
WELL, WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY!
UNLESS YOU'D RATHER MODEL THE DRESS, MO?
NOT ME. I'VE GOTTA SPEND THE WHOLE WEEKEND STUDYING FOR MY PHYSICS FINAL.
THEN I'M YOUR GIRL, Mr. LeMANS, er, PAUL.
WISH I WAS HIS GIRL! HE'S HELLA COOL!
AGREED! AFTER SCHOOL, COME RIGHT TO MY SALON. THE DIVA, ALLEGRA PIANISSIMO, SINGS HER FIRST ARIA AT 7:30, AND YOU'LL NEED A FACIAL, A NEW HAIRDO, A MANICURE, A PEDICURE...
Toodle-oo, TWINS! I'LL THINK OF YOU IN MONTE CARLO!
THAT EVENING, MO HITS THE BOOKS.
=Sigh= I'D RATHER BEAT THE KOO KOO KLUB WATCHING LULU AND THE CRAZY BABYZ, HER BROTHER RAOUL IS SO-O-O CUTE!
BUT I REALLY HAFTA STUDY OR I'LL NEVER PASS THAT TEST!
WHERE WAS I? Oh, YEAH--SOUND WAVES.
"CERTAIN FREQUENCIES CAN CAUSE FRAGILE OBJECTS SUCH AS GLASS TO RESONATE UNTIL THEY SELF-DESTRUCT." FASCINATING.
PHYSICS I

HUH?!
PHYSICS I
Famous operatic soprano Allegra Pianissimo demonstrates the effects of her voice on a crystal goblet.
ALLEGRA PIANISSIMO IS PERFORMING IN THAT RECITAL TONIGHT AND MAX'S DRESS IS MADE OF GLASS BEADS!
OMIGOD. IT'S 7:15. I HAVE FIFTEEN MINUTES TO GET TO THE CHANDLER PAVILION AND SAVE MY SISTER FROM TOTAL DISGRACE!
R-RING!!
YO! WHAT'S THAT, MO? YA MEAN HER WHOLE DRESS WILL EXPLODE?
NO PROBLEM, THE CRAZY BABYZ ARE ON OUR WAY TO THE KOO KOO KLUB, AND THAT'S NEAR THE CHANDLER PAVILION.
WE'LL PICK YOU UP ON THE WAY!
GOOD OL' LULU!

7:20
WE'VE GOT TEN MINUTES TO GET TO THE CHANDLER PAVILION!
SCREEE!!!
TEN MINUTES? PIECE OF CAKE!
I LOVE THE SOUND OF BREAKING GLASS...
THE CRAZY BAYBZ' TUXS BY TARA HAMBLIN, GULPH MILLS, PA.
7:25
SQUEEL!
BUT...
BEG PAHDON, DO YOU HAVE TICKETS?
MEANWHILE, INSIDE...
THIS MUSIC IS BORING, AND PAUL LEMANS IS A TOTAL DUD. HE'S IGNORED ME ALL EVENING.
PAUL'S TUX ALSO BY TARA HAMBLIN.
GABRIELLA IS SOMEWHERE IN THE AUDIENCE, AND SO IS THE SHEIK OF BENZIQUE. BUT WHERE?
HERE COMES ALLEGRA PIANISSIMA TO SING HER FIRST ARIA. MAYBE NOW THINGS WILL LIVEN UP.
YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL, MAX! - DRESS BY MARIO HERNANDEZ, OJAI, CALIFORNIA.

7:28
Ah, Sweet Mesteree...
THIS IS WEIRD, BUT MY DRESS SEEMS TO BE VIBRATING!
EEEEEEEE
PAUL! SOMETHING STRANGE...
SHH!
EEEEEEEE
THE SHEIK OF BENZIQUE! WITH MY GIRL!
EEEEEEEE
Ooo, YOU CREEP! I'M LEAVING! ANYWAY, THIS DRESS IS GIVING ME THE WILLIES!
EEEEEEEE
WHILE, OUTSIDE...
I KNOW WE DON'T HAVE TICKETS, BUT, er...
WE'RE WITH THE ORCHESTRA!
IN THOSE CLOTHES?
Gee, MUSICIANS!
LULU'S FASHION BY JACKIE SPANGLER, HOUSTON, TX.
HEY!
YOU WANNA KNOW HOW I KNEW THAT?
CAN'T WAIT AROUND ANY LONGER!

MAX!
MO!
EEEEEEEEEEEEEE
EEEEEEE
MY DRESS!
TINKLE!
TINKLE!
EEEEE
TINKLE!
CRASH!
POP!
WHAT HAPPENED!
I'M SOAKED!
THE GLASS BEADS ALL SHATTERED AND THE COLORED WATER LEAKED OUT!
MAX! WHAT--?
YOU!
GABRIELLA'S GOWN BY JOE FITZPATRICK, LINCOLNWOOD, IL.
LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE! YOU WORM! YOU-- YOU CENTIPEDE! YOU-- Sputter

DON'T YOU TALK LIKE THAT TO MY FIANCE! IT WASN'T *HIS* FAULT THAT ALLEGRA PIANISSIMO HIT HIGH C.
YOUR *FIANCE?*
COME, PAUL DEAREST.
YES, HONEYBUNCH!
HER *FIANCE!*
NEVER MIND. WE'LL TAKE YOU TO THE KOO KOO KLUB WITH US. YOU TOO, MO, IF YOU WANT.
THANKS, BUT I *STILL* HAFTA STUDY FOR THAT TEST!
I LOVE THE SOUND OF BREAKING GLASS...
OUTRAGEOUS DRESS, DUDETTE!
TOTALLY RADICAL. WHERE'D YOU GET IT?
I MADE IT MYSELF... SORTA!
THE END

Had it with the real world?

DIRECTORY TO A

NONEXISTENT

UNIVERSE

Night Knight!
Grow-Arm-Hair-Lad!
Old-Man!

Macho Ma'am!
The Envelope!
Sir Realism!

The Kremlin Gremlin!
Invisible, Inc.!
Dober-Man The Pincher!

ARE YOU SURE HE'S GETTING OUR FACES?
WHOS IDEA WAS IT TO LET STUPID-MAN TAKE THE PICTURE?
DOES ANYONE MIND IF I PUT THE DOG OUT?
CALLEN

Loose Linda!
Dust Devil!
White Lightning!

Osborne The Unicorn!
Hot Dog!
Miss Fit!

. . . and that's not all . . .

A One-Shot Special from ICG Independent Comics Group
A Division of Eclipse Comics

Directory to a Nonexistent Universe TM and ©1987 Kerry Callen

TRIXINE AND ROXANNE CREATE WARDROBE MAGIC!
OKAY, ROXANNE, WHAT'S THE PROB? YOU LOOK LOWER THAN JACQUES COUSTEAU'S DIVING BELL!
OH, TRIXINE, MY WARDROBE IS THE PITS!
LOOK! A BUNCH OF TIRED SWEATSHIRTS AN' SWEATPANTS! A DROOPY OLD SKIRT THAT'S TOO LONG! ONE SOCK, AND A HANDFULL OF ODD BUTTONS!
AND I CAN'T AFFORD ANYTHING NEW THIS MONTH!
ROXANNE'S AND TRIXINE'S CLOTHES BY TARA HAMBLEN, GULPH MILLS, PA.
LIGHTEN UP, ROXANNE! BARBARA COTTRELL SENT IN THESE BITCHIN' FASHION IDEAS THAT ARE MADE TO ORDER FOR YOU. HERE THEY ARE, EXACTLY AS WRITTEN BY BARBARA!
JAZZING-UP-THOSE-SWEATS!
BUTTON UP! GO THROUGH OLD BUTTONS, OR ONES WITHOUT MATCHES, AND GO A LITTLE CRAZY!
PUT DESIGNS ON THE TOP, OR JUST SEW THEM ON RANDOMLY. ON THE SWEATPANTS, SEW BUTTONS DOWN THE SIDE OF THE LEGS.
THE TUBE SKIRT TAKES THE BOTTOM OF A SWEATSHIRT AS ITS TOP. CUT ACROSS A SWEATSHIRT JUST BELOW THE ARMHOLES. CUT TWO SLITS IN THE FRONT OF THE WAISTBAND, TWO INCHES APART, AND SLIP A CORD THROUGH. PULL THE TUBE OVER YOUR HIPS, TIE THE CORD INTO A BOW.
SPORTY LEG-WARMERS START OFF AS SLEEVES OF A SWEATSHIRT: CUT OFF JUST ABOVE THE ELBOWS, AND SLIP THE CUTOFF PIECES (WRIST-BANDS AT ANKLES) OVER THE CALVES.

BACK MAGIC
TURN YOUR ORDINARY T-SHIRT INTO AN UN-BOW-LIEVABLE SHIRT! CUT TWO HOLES IN THE BACK OF THE SHIRT AT THE WAIST, CENTERING THEM AT ABOUT 5 INCHES APART. THREAD RIBBON THROUGH THE HOLES, AND TIE BOW.
TAKE A BOW TO IT! MAKE LACE-UP PANTS FROM BASIC PULL-ON LEGGINGS. CUT A FIVE INCH SLIT IN THE BACK OF THE LEGGINGS, STARTING FROM THE CENTER OF THE WAIST-BAND. SNIP 4 OR 5 HOLES DOWN EACH SIDE, LACE RIBBONS THROUGH HOLES AS YOU WOULD LACE A SHOELACE.
CREATE YOUR OWN PONY TAIL HOLDERS BY CLIPPING STRAY SOCKS IN TWO PIECES. PULL YOUR HAIR THROUGH AND SCRUNCH DOWN. USE HAIR SPRAY AND BOBBY PINS TO HOLD STYLE IN PLACE.
THIS OUTFIT ALSO SENT IN BY TARA HAMBLEN.
THANK YOU, BARBARA! I HOPE SOME OF OUR OTHER READERS WILL TRY YOUR IDEAS, OR COME UP WITH SOME OF THEIR OWN!
SHORT CHANGE! CREATE A BUBBLE MINI OUT OF A LONG, PULL-ON SKIRT IN SOFT-FLOWING FABRIC.
WHILE YOU'RE WEARING THE SKIRT, PULL THE HEM UP AND UNDER THE WAISTBAND, LETTING THE HEM-LINE PEEK OUT TO FORM A RUFFLE. CINCH YOUR WAIST WITH A WIDE BELT; POUF OUT THE BUBBLE.
BARBARA WRITES, "REMEMBER, THE MAIN INGREDIENT IS ALWAYS YOUR OWN CREATIVITY! ENJOY!"

4 BOOKS 5 BUCKS

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Mai THE PSYCHIC GIRL™

AREA 88™

XENON™

VIZ COMICS™

Send us five bucks and we'll send you one sample issue from each of these four hot Japanese titles. That's a $6.00 value for only $5.00 postpaid!

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JUST MO
POLKADOT MINI FANTASY BY MIRCALLA WOZNIAK, SAN FRANCISCO, CA.
BY TARA HAMBLEN, GULPH MILLS, PA.
SWIMSUIT BY DELORIS SKRADE, MINNEAPOLIS, MN
RUFFLES 'N' BOWS BY NICOLE DAVIS, GAINESVILLE, FL.
EVENING GOWN BY TEREASA MAILLIE, CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA.

SUPER SERIES

TOTAL ECLIPSE

Starring

Airboy
Aztec Ace
Liberty Project
Masked Man
Miracleman

The New Wave
Prowler
Valkyrie
Skywolf
Strike!
and introducing Zzed

WOLFMAN
HAMPTON BLYBERG
SIENKIEWICZ

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: B.C. Boyer • Kurt Busiek • Chuck Dixon
Michael T. Gilbert • Doug Moench • Alan Moore • Tim Truman

California GIRLS Designer of the Month

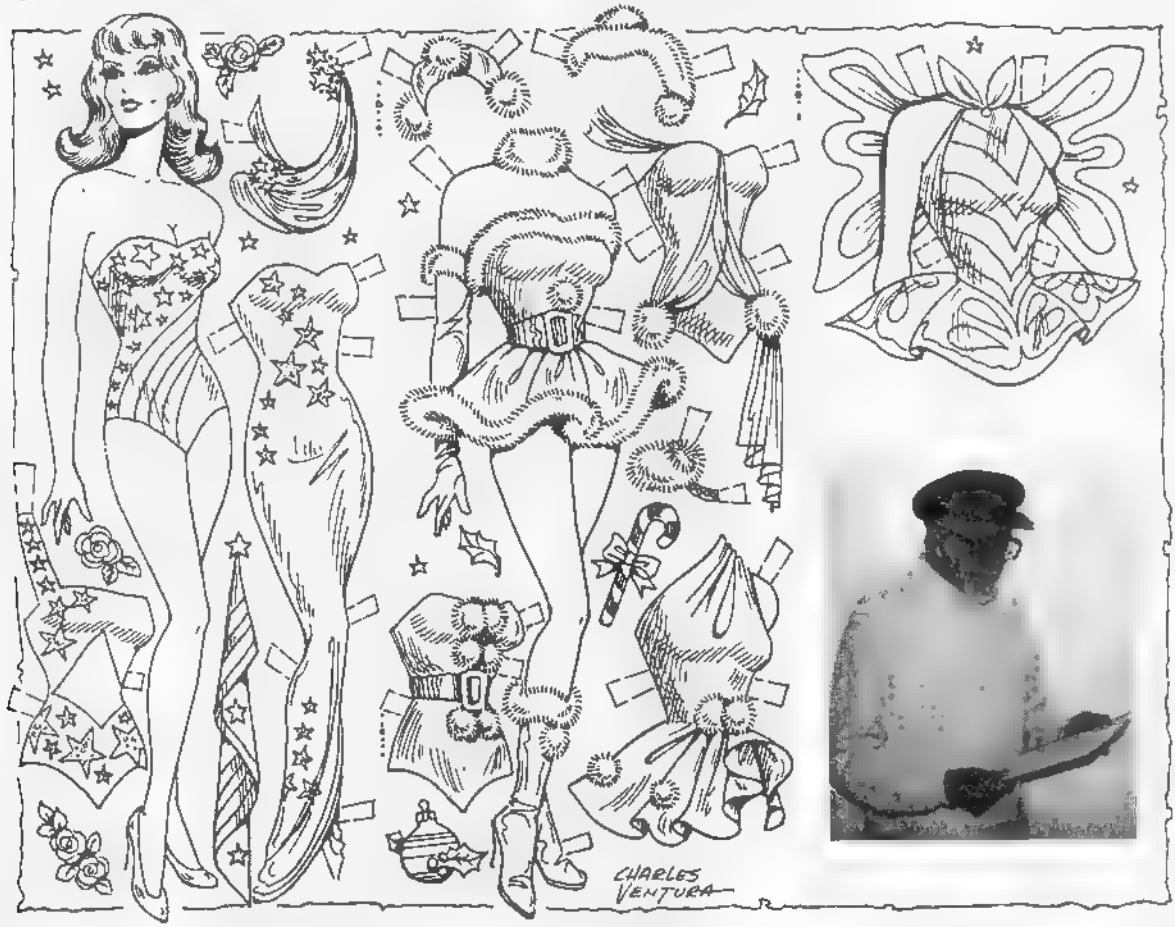
Our designer of the month actually thought we might not want to feature him because we might think he was too old! We think that 62-year-old Charles Ventura of Merrillville, Indiana, proves what we've always believed—that **California Girls** is for every age group.

Charles is a retired school teacher and commercial artist who started designing paper doll clothes for his sister, then for his two daughters, and now for his granddaughter! (He has six children and seven grandchildren.)

Charles writes, "I'm a carpenter, gardener, and fisherman. My idea of a good time is sitting at a drawing board creating new fashion ideas. It has been my hobby since childhood to get my designs published in the famous comic strips of the day—it is still my hobby."

The talented Mr. Ventura is still just as enthusiastic as ever about seeing his designs in print. He writes, "No matter how old I get or how many of my own things are published, I get the biggest 'kick' out of seeing my designs in the comics."

We're glad to hear that, because we get an even bigger kick out of receiving Charles Ventura's breathtaking fashions. Don't stop, Charles!



FUSION

SPACE ADVENTURE

ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE PACK

California MAIL

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: ECLIPSE COMICS, P.O. BOX 1099, FORESTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95436

Dear Trina,

I'm fourteen years old and a freshman at Limestone Community High School in Bartonville, Illinois.

I'm a big fan of yours; I have two complete sets of **Meet Misty**, all the **California Girls** that are out, and **Paper Dolls From The Comics.** I also have several **Millie The Model** and **Chili** comics by Stan Lee.

The one who really got me interested in comics is my dad, Chris Hansen. He buys all my comics for me. He was even in the newspaper about comics.

I really love your work. I think it's great! I only wish **California Girls** was in color.

Why did you stop **Meet Misty**? You got to six and quit. Are you going to do that with **California Girls**? I hope not—I really like it!

Love ya lots,
Brandy Hansen
Belview, IL

P.S. I would really love to meet you. Have you ever thought of traveling to different comic conventions?

Dear Brandy,

This summer I'll be at the San Diego comic convention, and I would really love to meet you, too!

Meet Misty was planned for a six issue mini-series, no more than that, but California Girls is planned to keep going on as long as you readers keep buying it.

Love,
Trina

Dear Trina,

Hi, it's me again. How's things on the coast? Thanks for featuring two of my designs in **California Girls #5**; hopefully they'll be the first of many. Maybe I'll even make Designer of the Month some day. My mom got a real kick out of seeing Mo and Max in my outfits. She even liked reading the comic and jokingly said I had a future as a fashion designer.

The stories in issue #6 were a real hoot. I got a lot of laughs out of them, especially "The Two-Timer." That was hilarious. I'm constantly amazed at the wealth of talent that contributes regularly to **California Girls**. Irene Kim, Wren Britton, Barbara Cottrell, Lynn Dudley, and Kathleen Webb do absolutely fantastic work.

Can readers like me submit story ideas as well as designs? (It might make for an interesting contest.) I'd really like to know.

Your friend,
Jeffrey C. Branch
Philadelphia, PA

Dear Jeffrey,

You sure can submit story ideas! As you can see, in this issue, there are two stories based on ideas from readers, and in the last issue there was a story based on an idea sent in by Chuck Alligood. We'll be having more stories inspired by our readers in the future. As for contests, keep reading...

Dear Trina,

Hi! I really enjoy reading **California Girls**. One, because it allows the readers to send in fashions, and two, because you make the characters look and talk like real teenagers! Whenever I invite friends over, I share the **California Girls** with them, and they really like it! Thanks for being there!

Love,
Debbie Kim,
Kirkland, WA

Dear Debbie,

I hope all our other readers will share California Girls with their friends, too! In fact, I think you've given us a good motto: If you like this issue of **California Girls**, please share it with a friend.

Thank you,
Trina

Dear Trina,

I love your comic book. It's one of my favorites! I also like **Donald Duck** and **Betty and Veronica** (also **Betty's Diary!**). I've just started reading **California Girls** and only have issues #4, #5, and #6, but I plan to keep collecting. I love comics! Oh, by the way, I'm eleven and in the sixth grade.

There is one problem with your comic. You've probably heard this before, but I really would like to see one non-perfect face in the crowd! (Let's say plain mousy hair, long nose, and not "perfect" deep blue or brown eyes!) You might make her a little

chunky, too.

Your fan,
Kate Stoliger
Mission Viejo, CA

Dear Trina,

About the letter written by Kelly Hall. I was very touched when she said why not draw some teenagers who are less than perfect. Whenever I read a comic book, I often complain about why everyone in comics is *so* perfect. So do us a favor—draw some characters who are less than perfect, okay? Anyway, that's the only complaint about the characters drawn in **California Girls**, but I have a question about the price of your comic book. How come it costs $2.00? Shouldn't it be priced at $1.50 like **Area 88**?

I agree with Wren Britton and Brendan Gramer that we ought to have a pen pal section. It's a great way to get to know each other, and I would like to be anybody's pen pal.

Sayonara,
(Japanese word for Goodbye)
Tara Hamblen
Gulph Mills, PA

Dear Kate and Tara,

You are both right; not all teenagers are perfect, and I hereby promise to have some less-than-perfect teenagers in the next issue of ***California Girls****. Tara,* ***Area 88*** *and all the other Japanese comics published by Eclipse are reprinted from the original Japanese and, since the artist has already gotten paid the first time, Eclipse is paying reprint rates for those comics. Reprint rates are much less, and so Eclipse is able to sell the comics for less.*

Anyone who wants to be pen pals with Tara, Wren, or Brendan, or any other reader, write to them care of this letter column, and we promise to forward the letter.

Dear California Girls,

I think your comic is the greatest! I try to get as many issues as I can. I even have a **California Girls** poster! I'm a comic collector (as you can see), and I also like to design things (mostly clothes). I'm a 4' 1/2" eight year old girl, and I'm in third grade. I'm glad the twins are now giving advice!

Your greatest fan,
Mary Bliss Mather
Atlanta, GA

Dear Mary,

Well, we'd like *to give advice! Do* you *need any advice?*

Love,
Max and Mo

Dear Trina,

Hi! I love **California Girls** and I just adore the "Origin of Smidgin." It was soooo cute!!!! I hope you use my fashions. This is my first time. I wrote to many comics in my mind but never got it on paper!

From a devoted fan,
J. Wolfman
Silverspring, MD

Dear "J,"

What does that "J" stand for? I'm glad you finally decided to write to a comic—and that it was this *one! I'm saving your Halloween designs for next time we need costumes.*

Love,
Trina

Hi, Trina,

This is just a short note letting you know how much I appreciate your artwork on **California Girls**. I've followed your career since your days at the East Village Other (honest!), and even got to see you in person once at a Phil Seuling N.Y. convention in the early '70s. It's great that a whole new generation is now seeing you in print at Eclipse Comics. I would like to ask you to please feature more of your Hispanic character, Lulu, in **California Girls**. I think she's the prettiest young lady in your book, and besides, she reminds me of a Puerto Rican girl I'd like to know better! Thank you!

Sincerely,
Tom Stein
Norwalk, CT

Dear Trina,

All I have to say is that I *love* your **California Girls** comic books. I discovered them about one month ago in a small comic book store. Ever since then, I have been looking all over for them. The only one I need is #3.

Oh yeah, my name is Rachel Armendariz. I'm twelve years old, thirteen in December, and I'm in the eighth grade. My favorite character in your comic book is Lulu. I think she is so rad! I love her earrings in the #6 comic book. Does she always wear those earrings?

Oh yeah, I almost forgot: How many comics books have Barbara Cottrell's drawings been in? I ask because I've seen her name so many times. Tell her I think she draws good!

'Bye for now,
Rachel A.

Dear Tom and Rachel,

Glad you like Lulu! You'll be finding more of her in future issues of ***California Girls****, and you've given me the idea for another contest. See the sidebar to find out about voting for your favorite* ***California Girl****! Tom, I wish you luck with your pretty Puerto Rican friend.*

Yes, Rachel, Lulu always wears those earrings.

Love,
Trina

Dear Trina,

I want to compliment you on a wonderful comic. It will be hard to wait for **California Girls** when it goes bi-monthly, but I'm sure the extra time will mean that this comic will stay super.

It is inspirational seeing the talented contributions from the readers. It has taken a while for me to raise enough courage to send in some outfits for Max and Mo. Here's hoping you can find some use for them.

Since most of your readers have given you a little biographical background, I will too. I've been enjoying and making paper dolls since I was five. I am now a grown-up of 27 and still at it. Besides drawing, I enjoy reading and sewing. I work in a bank, which is not too exciting, but it pays the rent. I've lived in Denver, Colorado, my whole life.

Thanx for creating a fun magazine and keep up the great job.

Grace Spengler
Denver, CO

Dear Grace,

Wow! Those paper dolls you sent in are fabulous! Look for them in the next issue of ***California Girls****, and thank you so much for drawing them! Uh-oh, Grace, now that you're resigned to wait an extra month for* ***California Girls****, we're gonna ask you to wait one more month! That's because* ***California Girls*** *has just gone quarterly. That means instead of coming out six times a year, you'll be finding Max and Mo on the shelves of your favorite comic book store four times a year, or every three months. Most important,* ***California Girls*** *is here to stay and we're not going away!*

COLORING CONTEST!

Now, there've been some other changes in the book, too. You'll find the color paper dolls on the back cover, and less ads in the book. And one more thing: We got such terrific response from that coloring contest we ran in issue #2 that we've decided to have a coloring contest in every issue of ***California Girls*** *from now on!*

That's right, starting with this issue, the two pages of paper dolls in the middle of the book are waiting to be colored and sent in by you, the readers. (If you don't want to cut up the comic, you can just photocopy the pages and color the copies.)

Winners will be selected in two age categories: Over 13, and under 13, so be sure to include your age! All winners will be announced in the following issue of ***California Girls*** *and will receive in the mail an original drawing by Trina of Max and Mo, suitable for framing.*

I have some other exiting paper doll news too: in July, we'll be putting out a special ***California Girls Paper Doll*** *book, with my personal favorites of the dolls from our first eight issues. Look for it in your local comic shop or bookstore, or reserve a copy from Eclipse for $5.95, plus $1.00 for postage and handling.*

That's all the news for now. We welcome Bountiful Barb Rausch and her magic pencil back for "The Sound of Breaking Glass." See you soon, don't forget!

WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE CALIFORNIA GIRL?

Is it Max or Mo—Lulu or Trixine?

There's no prize in this contest, except the satisfaction of seeing your favorite California Girl win. Send your votes in today!

Max

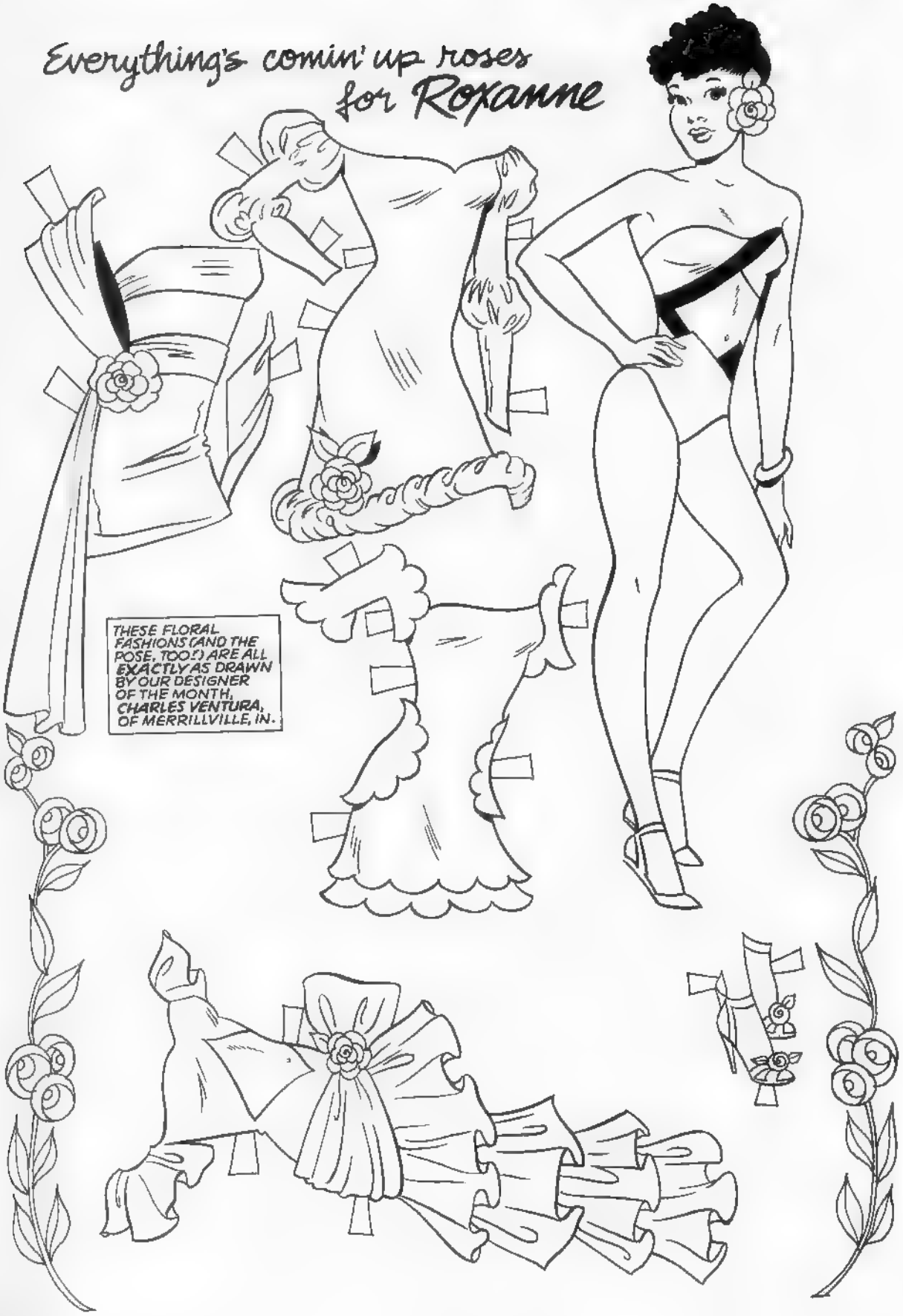
Mo

Laverne

Lulu

Roxanne

Trixine


Everything's comin' up roses
for Roxanne
THESE FLORAL FASHIONS (AND THE POSE, TOO!) ARE ALL EXACTLY AS DRAWN BY OUR DESIGNER OF THE MONTH, CHARLES VENTURA, OF MERRILLVILLE, IN.

A TRENDY **TRIXINE**
WEARS FASHIONS DESIGNED JUST FOR HER

SWIMSUIT BY **CELINE SCHEIN**, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

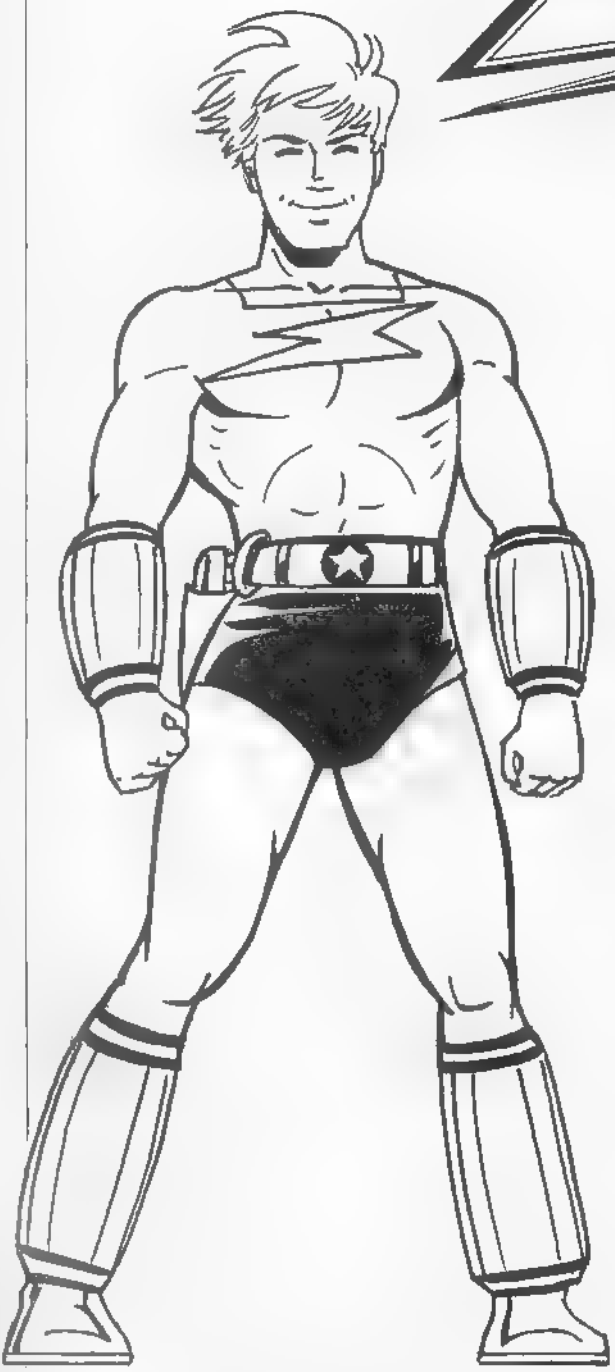
THESE SHOES AND SOCKS GO WITH THE MANY-POCKETED MINI, AND WERE DESIGNED BY **LESLIE STERNBERGH** OF NEW YORK CITY, WHO ALSO SENT IN THE TITLE OF THIS PAGE.

THESE TWO OUTFITS, AS WELL AS THE "MAI, THE PSYCHIC GIRL" MIDDY, WERE SENT IN BY **CHUCK ALLIGOOD** OF GREENSBORO, N.C.

"A+ FIND IT, BUY IT, READ IT."

Don Thompson, Comics Buyer's Guide

ZOT!



"**Zot!** is back and it is at *least* as good as ever. Even if you missed the first 10 issues, you will be able to follow the story. Grade: A-plus."

Don Thompson,
Comics Buyer's Guide

'Zot! looks every bit as good in black-and-white as he did in color—and maybe even better! It's been a long wait but worth every second!"

Diana Schutz,
Editor-in-Chief,
Comico the Comic Company

"**Zot!** is the work of an explosively original talent. Scott McCloud is going to be a major figure in the field someday, but right now he's simply one of comics' best kept secrets."

Speakeasy Magazine,
London

"Zot's back now. Like every great hero, he refused to let his first defeat keep him down. For me that's the best comic book news in 17 years. For you, it's a golden opportunity to discover something great. I look forward to the day when all the cheap, amateur black-and-white junk dies and the really fine black-and-white artists like Scott McCloud.. can have the shelves to themselves again."

Gerard Jones,
Amazing Heroes Magazine

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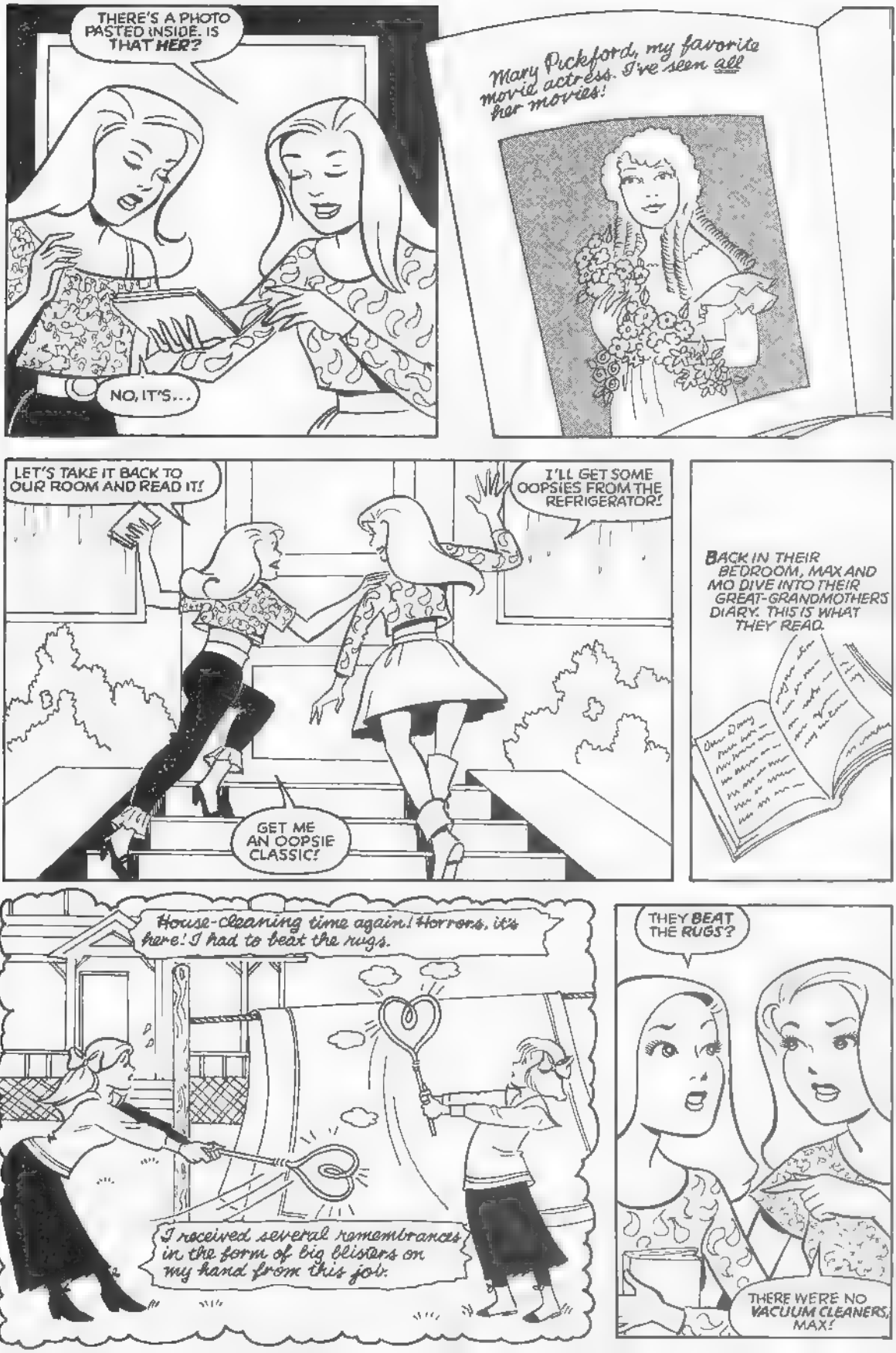
A FLASH FROM THE PAST
STORY AND ART BY TRINA ROBBINS
LETTERED BY L. LOIS BUHALIS
OOO, I'M SO BORED!
I KNOW, THERE'S NOTHING TO DO!
YOU NEED SOMETHING TO DO? HOW ABOUT CLEANING YOUR ROOM?
Ugh!
GRAMMY, THAT'S NOT WHAT WE MEANT!
MAX'S OUTFIT BY NEIL TITUS, COOPERSVILLE, MI.
MO'S OUTFIT BY LYNN DUDLEY, LA MESA, CA.
GRAMMY'S CLOTHES BY MARGIE MENZA, QUECHEE, VT.

Ew, GROSS! WHY DON'T WE JUST HOSE DOWN THIS ROOM?
I REALLY HATE THIS! WHY DO WE HAFTA CLEAN THIS DUMB ROOM ANYWAY?
WELL, HELP ME CARRY THIS PILE OF BOOKS INTO THE GARAGE, AND THEN WE'LL TAKE AN OOPSIE COLA BREAK!
Grumble
WHERE DOES THIS STUFF GO?
MAYBE THERE'S ROOM IN THIS OLD TRUNK!
I'VE NEVER REALLY LOOKED IN HERE BEFORE.
WHAT'S IN THERE, MO?
IT LOOKS LIKE AN OLD DIARY!
BUT WHOSE?
Diary
"THE DIARY OF MAXINE MAURINE MULDOON, AGE 16 YEARS 10 MONTHS TODAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1917."
MO, THAT WAS GRAMMY'S MOM. OUR GREAT-GRANDMOTHER!


THERE'S A PHOTO PASTED INSIDE. IS THAT HER?
NO, IT'S...
Mary Pickford, my favorite movie actress. I've seen all her movies!
LET'S TAKE IT BACK TO OUR ROOM AND READ IT!
I'LL GET SOME OOPSIES FROM THE REFRIGERATOR!
GET ME AN OOPSIE CLASSIC!
BACK IN THEIR BEDROOM, MAX AND MO DIVE INTO THEIR GREAT-GRANDMOTHERS DIARY. THIS IS WHAT THEY READ.
House-cleaning time again! Horrors, it's here! I had to beat the rugs.
I received several remembrances in the form of big blisters on my hand from this job.
THEY BEAT THE RUGS?
THERE WERE NO VACUUM CLEANERS, MAX!

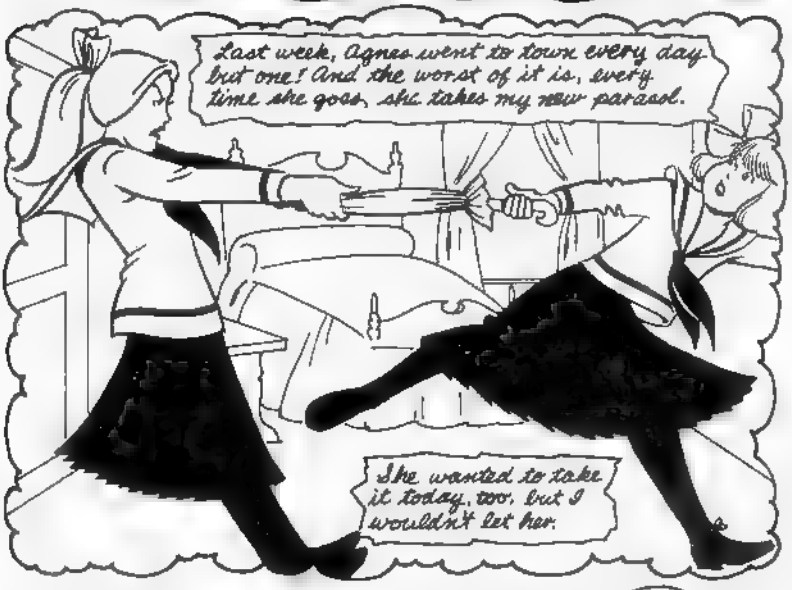
The next day was worse than the first as we had to scrub floors, wash windows and put up curtains.
I also mowed some of the lawn, which seemed to be a foot high to me.
It's no joke to mow a lawn.
I baked a cake in the afternoon.
It was pretty good for me, who, as you know, is no fine cook.
SHE DID ALL THAT AND BAKED A CAKE TOO?
AND I BET SHE DIDN'T USE A CAKE MIX, EITHER!

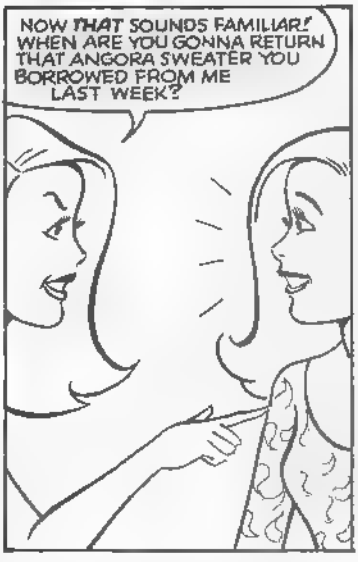
Saturday. Oh, pleasant dreams spoiled. There's Mama calling me to get up. Oh, hum, gee, but I'm sleepy.
But I guess there's no hope. I must get up. It's 6:30.
SIX THIRTY! IN THE MORNING? ON A SATURDAY?
I dress and wake sister Agnes up and soon we are ready to go. We get breakfast. Then begins work.
WORK? AGAIN?
We wash the dishes. Then, while Agnes cleans up the bathroom, I make a very thorough cleaning of our bedrooms, which is a very rare occurance.
"A VERY RARE OCCURANCE." SHE WAS JUST LIKE US, AFTER ALL!

Mamma baked a fine cake herself, taking no risks with my baking one.
Then us kids decided to walk to town to see "The Poor Little Rich Girl," with Mary Pickford.
A SILENT MOVIE! OH, I WISH I COULD'VE LIVED IN THOSE DAYS!
It was just a grand movie and it was worth walking into town for.
Then we started home, reaching there at five sharp
TOWN MUST HAVE BEEN PRETTY FAR AWAY!
Then we had dinner, or rather, potato soup, for that is all it consisted of.
HOME SWEET HOME
POTATO SOUP! YUCK! I'LL NEVER COMPLAIN WHEN GRAMMY MAKES MEATLOAF AGAIN!

This has been an awful busy summer. We canned so much fruit and you know that's no easy job. I suppose we'll have to stay out of school to help pick the apples, too.
I'll dream about green apples for a month!

POOR GREAT GRANDMOTHER! DIDN'T SHE DO ANYTHING BUT WORK?


Last week, Agnes went to town every day but one! And the worst of it is, every time she goes, she takes my new parasol.
She wanted to take it today, too, but I wouldn't let her.


NOW THAT SOUNDS FAMILIAR! WHEN ARE YOU GONNA RETURN THAT ANGORA SWEATER YOU BORROWED FROM ME LAST WEEK?

I read the best book yesterday! I wish I could live like they do in books. I wish I had lived about fifty years ago.
THE MYSTERY MILLIONAIRE
And another thing, I wish that I had a whole roomful of good books. Oh, I just dearly love to read!

MO, SHE WAS JUST LIKE YOU!

After school today we went down town, and Mary treated me to my first cola. I thought it would be good, but oh, it was awful! The fizz went right up my nose!
NEW! Gopsie Cola TRY SOME 5¢
YOU MEAN SHE'S NEVER HAD A SODA BEFORE?
Mamona bought some dress goods in town and made me a new shirtwaist. It's beautiful! It's the first real grown-up shirtwaist I've ever had, and I'm going to wear it with a long skirt on Monday.
I'll put my hair up and look quite grown-up!
MAX, ARE YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING?
I FEEL A LITTLE SPOILED!
WE SLEEP 'TIL TEN ON SATURDAYS, WE NEVER HAFTA DO ANYTHING EXCEPT CLEAN OUR ROOM...
WE HAVE A CLOSET FULL OF CLOTHES...
...AND WE COMPLAIN!

THE ROOM IS SPOTLESS! WHAT HAPPENED?
WE JUST REALIZED WHAT TOTALLY AWESOME LIVES WE LEAD!
AND WE WANT TO KNOW ALL ABOUT OUR GREAT-GRANDMOTHER!
DEAR READERS, THE DIARY IN THIS STORY IS REAL! IT WAS WRITTEN IN 1917 BY A TEENAGE GIRL AND WAS FOUND BY ME IN AN ANTIQUE STORE IN A SMALL CALIFORNIA TOWN. --Trina
END

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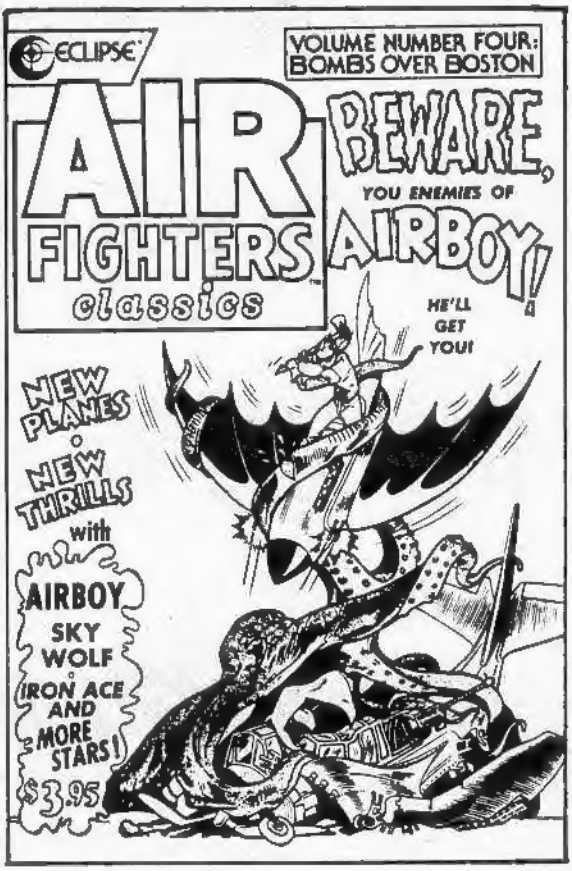

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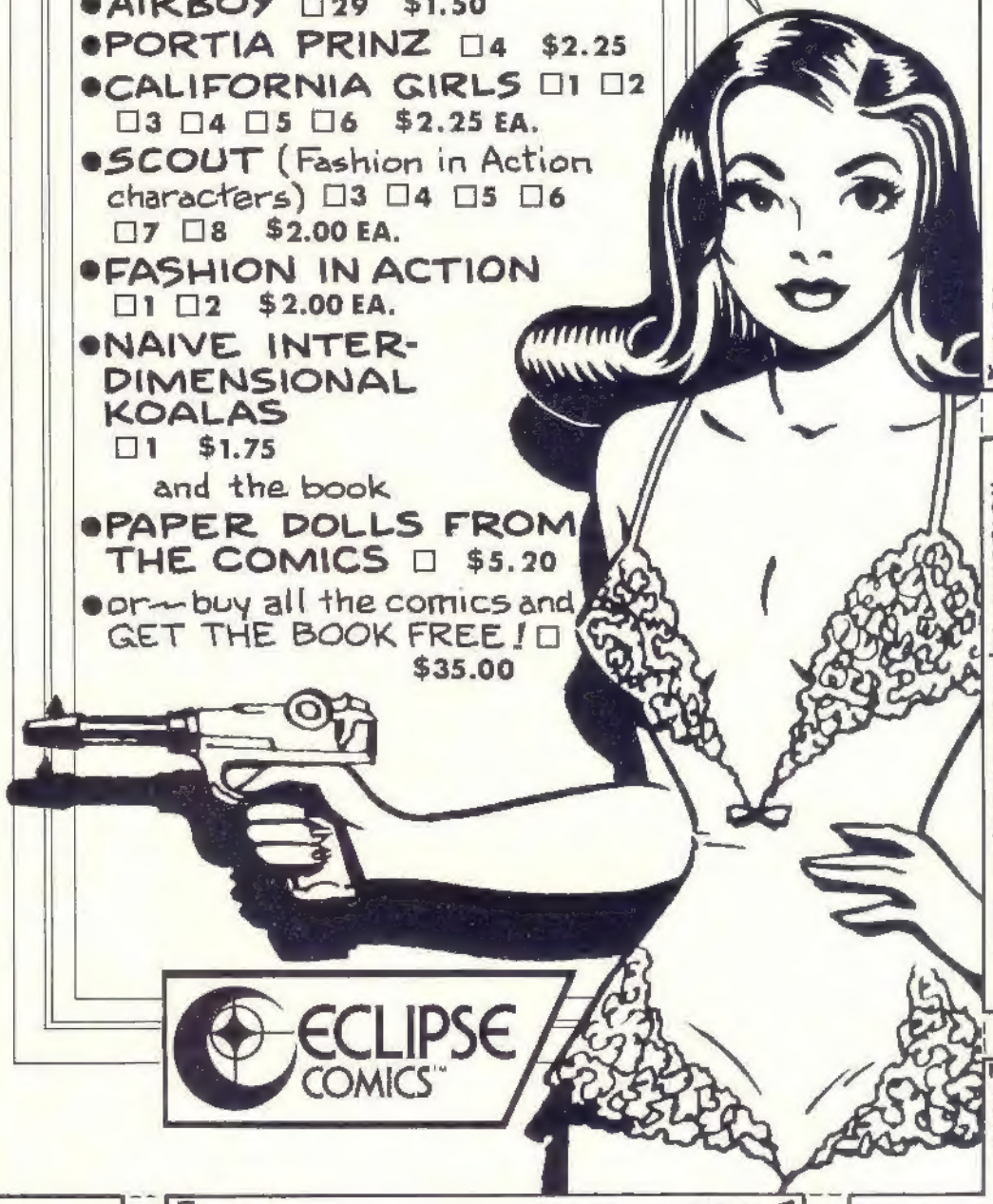

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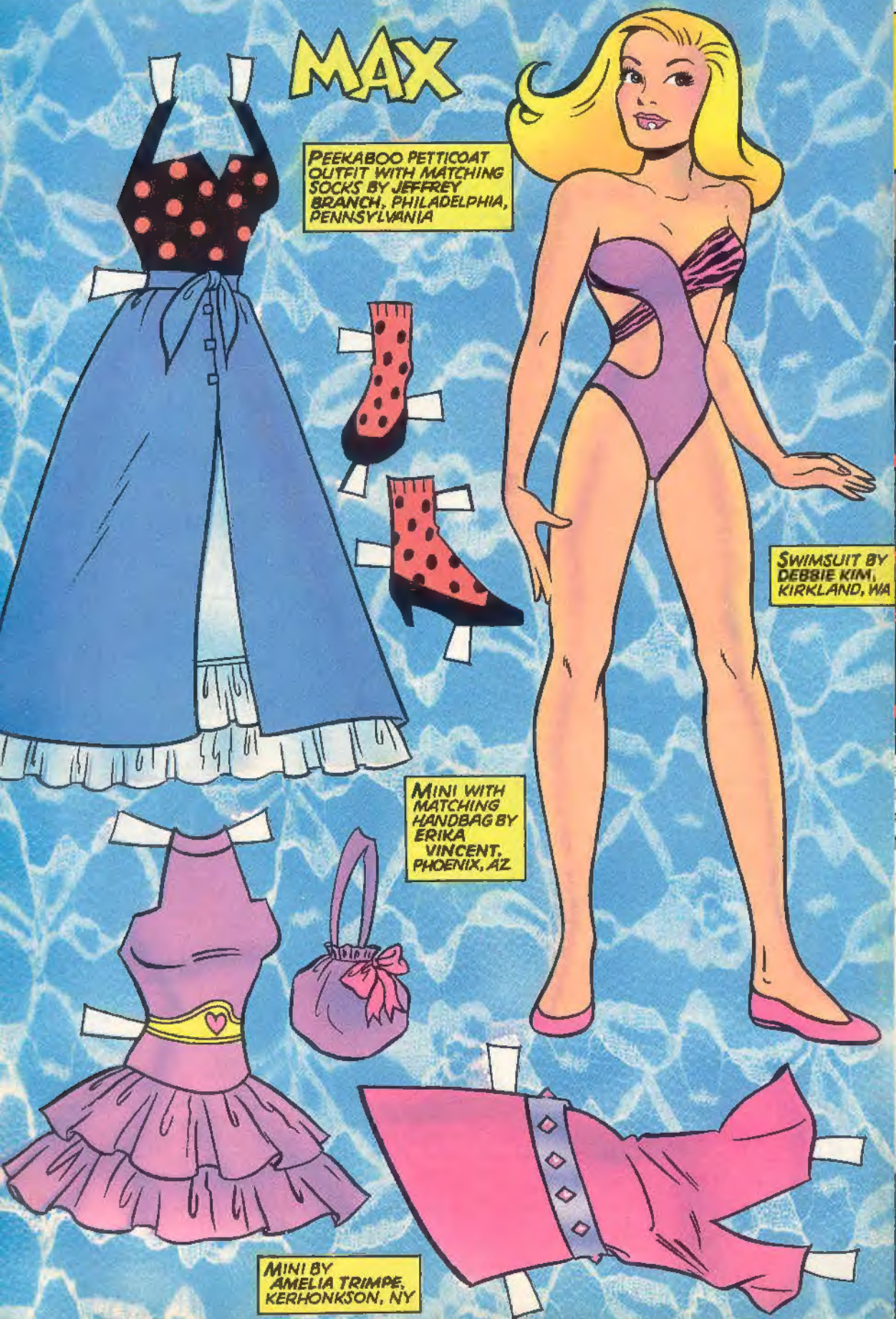
PEEKABOO PETTICOAT OUTFIT WITH MATCHING SOCKS BY JEFFREY BRANCH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
SWIMSUIT BY DEBBIE KIM, KIRKLAND, WA
MINI WITH MATCHING HANDBAG BY ERIKA VINCENT, PHOENIX, AZ
MINI BY AMELIA TRIMPE, KERHONKSON, NY